AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An information recording medium on which groove tracks, land tracks neighboring the groove tracks grooves and land prepits on the land tracks neighboring the groove are formed,

wherein the groove comprises an embossed area in which an embossed configuration including pits and spaces of predetermined depths is formed; and

wherein the <u>land</u> prepit in the embossed area has an optimized configuration according to a length of the pit or the space <u>which is in the embossed area and</u> which the <u>land</u> prepit neighbors.

- 2. (currently amended): The information recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the optimized configuration is prescribed by a prepit shift which indicates a length of the <u>land</u> prepit in a perpendicular direction to a direction of the length of the groove <u>track</u> and by a depth of the <u>land</u> prepit.
- 3. (original): The information recording medium according to claim 2, wherein the prepit shift is determined to be constant for all the lengths of the pit or the space in the embossed area; and wherein the depth of the prepit is determined according to the length of the pit or the space in the embossed area.

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 U.S. Appln. No. 10/701,077

4. (currently amended): The information recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the optimized configuration of the <u>land</u> prepit is a configuration with which an RF signal distortion caused by the prepit becomes minimum.